

Syrian peace plan studied by Lebanese

TRIPOLI — Lebanon continued its return to normal yesterday, as a six-man government of Moslem and Christian leaders met under the leadership of President Suleiman Frangieh to study a peace plan proposed by the Syrian government. The plan, which was presented to the Lebanese parliament, called for a 15-year ceasefire and a 15-year transition period to a new constitution. It also called for a 15-year transition period to a new constitution. The plan was presented to the Lebanese parliament, which is expected to vote on it tomorrow. The plan was presented to the Lebanese parliament, which is expected to vote on it tomorrow. The plan was presented to the Lebanese parliament, which is expected to vote on it tomorrow.

Jordanian Parliament session called today

By ANAN SAFADI
JORDANIAN KING Hussein yesterday decreed the reconvening today of Parliament — composed equally of East and West Bank deputies. This decision virtually kills the 1974 Rabat summit ruling of the PLO as representing the West Bank. The 60-member Parliament was dissolved early last year following the Rabat decision. Parliament will reconvene in an emergency session of the "National Assembly" which includes the 30-man House of Nobles (Senate), which is also composed of East and West Bank members.

Assad to Paris next month

PARIS — Syrian President Hafez al-Assad is expected to pay an official visit to France next month, Elysee Palace officials said yesterday. They said the visit, the first by a Syrian head of state to France, is tentatively set for mid-March. President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing is also expected to receive Egyptian President Anwar Sadat later in March. Informal sources said the Egyptian leader, who is due to go to Italy and West Germany next month, wants to come to France between these two visits.

ERES PREDICTS:

More dangerous war in Lebanon

JERUSALEM — Defence Minister Shimon Peres said today that Lebanon's Christians and Moslems are arming heavily for new fighting and it would be far more destructive than the current conflict. Peres said in an interview published yesterday in the "Washington Star." He also said that he opposes talking to the PLO under any circumstances, and would not do so even if the tactical purpose of appearing "reasonable" in the world's eyes. "We're not a public relations company," he said. "We're a country trying to survive. We shouldn't use empty tactics that could eventually lead to a Munich." Regarding the situation in Lebanon, Peres said: "Both sides are

arming themselves and strengthening their positions. The Christians will try to negotiate, but if they don't get what they consider acceptable terms, fighting may well break out again." On other issues, Peres viewed as a good sign King Hussein's decision to reconvene the Jordanian parliament with representatives from the West Bank included. "This should be a step toward negotiations with Israel," he said, "but only in the long run, since the Arab world is not likely to agree very quickly. It's not until they see more clearly that the people on the West Bank prefer Hussein to the PLO." Regarding Egypt's intentions toward Israel, Peres said: "Egypt's basic strategy is to ruin the relationship between Israel and the

U.S. It doesn't want war, because war would damage this strategy. Syria, on the other hand, is playing a game of cat and mouse. It's ready around it the Arab world. Neither strategy is likely to lead towards peace." According to interviewer Dan Kurzman, Peres seemed to feel that the only genuine chance for peace negotiations in the near future will come if Syria drops its demand that the PLO attend a Geneva conference. Peres said that he does "not exclude this possibility." Syria, he said, may want "to find a way out." Perhaps when it must make a decision in May whether to agree to a further extension of the UN mandate. The alternative, Peres said, could be war.

U.S. allows trial Concorde jet flights

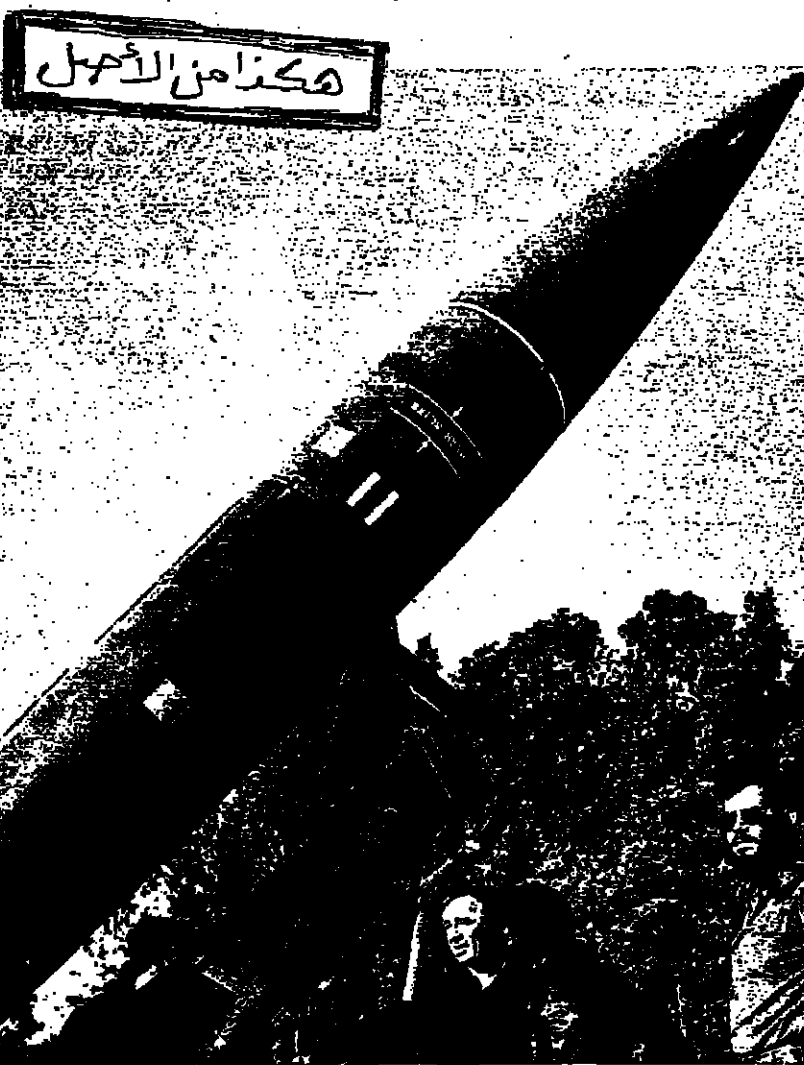
WASHINGTON — Transportation Secretary William Coleman yesterday authorized Concorde supersonic transport for 16 months of trial flights to both New York and Washington.

Coleman said each airline would operate two SSTs at New York's Kennedy airport and one SST at Washington's Dulles airport between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. local time. Scheduled commercial flights linking the U.S. with London and Paris would start as soon as late April.

Coleman's ruling alone is all that is needed to permit SST operations at Dulles, a Federal-owned airport. Coleman's decision was a stunning blow for opponents of the controversial Anglo-French SST. Immediate court challenges appeared certain. Ignoring the compromise expected by SST supporters and opponents alike, Coleman's ruling authorized six Concorde flights a day to the U.S. — the full number sought by British Airways and Air France.

But additional permission must be granted by the New York Port Authority before the Concorde can land at JFK. Coleman said it would be "extremely unfortunate" if the port authority banned the SST, as some feel might happen because of stiff New York opposition.

Concorde opponents have based their strongest arguments on the SST's noise, saying the thunder of its four engines is four times louder than the noisiest subsonic jets and eight times louder than the new quiet jumbo jets.



A Lance battery in the IDF artillery corps was inspected yesterday by Defence Minister Shimon Peres.

Lance in operation with IDF gunners

JERUSALEM — The IDF Artillery Corps is now operational with the Lance missile, it was revealed yesterday, Defence Minister Shimon Peres said. The Lance missile is a short-range, high-precision, air-to-air missile. It is designed to destroy enemy aircraft and ground targets. The Lance missile is a short-range, high-precision, air-to-air missile. It is designed to destroy enemy aircraft and ground targets. The Lance missile is a short-range, high-precision, air-to-air missile. It is designed to destroy enemy aircraft and ground targets.

can carry a half-ton of conventional explosives about 75 kilometres with a high degree of accuracy. The American army uses the Lance to carry a one-kiloton nuclear device, with a range of 118 kms.

The missile can be fitted with warheads containing clusters of hundreds of small high-explosive bombs which spread over a wide area and are effective against missile and artillery batteries and other targets.

The version carrying conventional warheads was developed by the U.S. to sell abroad. The Lance system is highly mobile. The launcher is carried on a tracked vehicle or on a light, towed trailer and it can be transported by air and airdropped.

Rabin would dispense with US technicians

SANTA MONICA, California — Premier Yitzhak Rabin tends to support a move to end the role of U.S. technicians posted in Sinai, "should circumstances permit," sources in his entourage said last night.

They said the Prime Minister has come to the conclusion that the advantages of having the technicians in Sinai is liable to be more than offset by the damage their presence could cause Israel. However, the sources emphasized, the decision has not reached concrete stages.

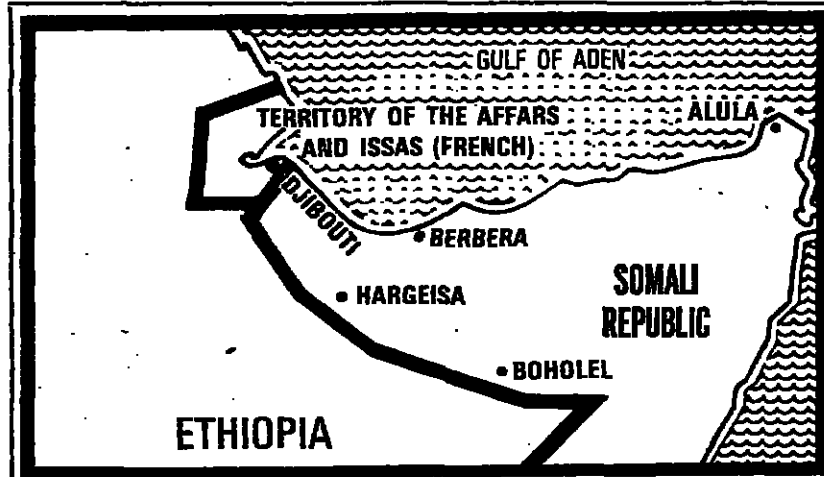
Sources in Rabin's party admitted that the Prime Minister had agreed to posting the technicians because he had feared Defence Minister Peres would otherwise have opposed the interim Sinai agreement. They said also that because of fear of conflict with Peres, Rabin had approved superfluous items which were later discarded. They said Rabin had read most of the lists, but not all of them.

However, the sources denied he accepted full responsibility for the lists. He did not blame Peres or the Defence Ministry, but intended, on his return to Israel, to establish a "collective responsibility" for them. In any event, Rabin will henceforth go over every list.

The sources indicated the lists were largely the product of the former adviser to the Defence Minister, Prof. Yuval Ne'eman, who they suggested, added items which have not yet been fully developed or tested by the U.S. army.

Rabin yesterday visited the Rand Institute, where he addressed 100 scientists on the staff, and met in closed session with the Institute's heads. He left for New York last night, and will leave for his return trip to Israel tonight.

Following a third round of talks with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger late Tuesday night, Rabin said he was satisfied with the arms supply time-table that had been proposed by Washington.



French Communist blast at Israel

JERUSALEM — French Communist leader Georges Marchais accused Israel of torturing Palestinians and dynamiting their homes, during a speech opening the party's 22nd Congress here yesterday.

The party's 55-year-old secretary-general's main theme was a bitter condemnation of the Soviet Union for crushing individual freedom. (See page 4.)

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Quake hits Guatemala killing 600

Four countries suffer

GUATEMALA CITY. — A massive earthquake rolled through four countries in Central America early yesterday. Guatemala City was severely damaged. Unofficial and unconfirmed reports said at least 600 people were killed there and 5,000 injured. Red Cross and fire department rescue workers pulled people from the debris of collapsed buildings which choked the streets in Guatemala City. About 10 aftershocks added to the initial panic of the first strong shock. The aftershocks tumbled already damaged walls. Rescue workers were still dragging bodies from buildings. There were no immediate reports of deaths or serious injuries in Mexico, about 1,700 kms to the northwest, or the other countries affected by the earthquake — Honduras and El Salvador, which are southeast of Guatemala. Huge cracks showed in Guatemala City's central communications building and there was no electricity or telephone service. Headquarters for the CARE relief organization in New York said information it had received in telephone contacts with representatives in Guatemala City and Honduras placed the number of dead in Guatemala City at about 500 and 3,000 others injured, and the casualty toll was still mounting. Observatory director Jose Vasquez said the first tremor lasted 35 seconds, the last time he had registered a quake of that magnitude being in 1942.

A seismological station in Mexico City, where the earthquake was felt but caused no damage, said the epicentre was located near Guatemala City and measured 7.5 there on the Richter scale. A 7.5 reading on this scale of magnitude would make it one of the strongest quakes to hit a populated area in several years. Earthquake stations from Europe to Honolulu registered the earthquake, that was felt from central Mexico southward into Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. Guatemala City was destroyed in December, 1917, by a large earthquake. The last major earthquake in Central America occurred on December 23, 1972, when 10,000 people were killed in Managua, Nicaragua, about 500 kms. south of Guatemala City. The earthquake interrupted the power supply in the city and disrupted communications with the outside world. Four hours after it hit, the Guatemala capital was still without electricity. The Richter scale is a measure of ground motion generally accepted as the most accurate method of measuring earthquake magnitude on seismographs. In populated areas a measurement of 3.5 on the Richter scale — which this earthquake caused in Mexico City — can cause slight local damage. A reading of 7 is classified as a major earthquake capable of causing heavy destruction. (AP)

6 gunmen, one child killed on school bus seizure

FRANCE HAS asked for a meeting of the U.N. Security Council following the hijacking of a school bus in its Red Sea territory of Afar and Issa and a subsequent brief clash between French units and troops of neighbouring Somalia, the Foreign Ministry announced in Paris last night.

France has also recalled its ambassador from the Somali capital of Mogadishu for consultations, the ministry said. French troops yesterday stormed the school bus which held 30 young hostages, killing six African nationalist gunmen, the territory's President Ali Aref announced.

One little girl was killed and five children wounded by the terrorists' counter-fire. A French negotiator said, "We decided we must take the risk after negotiations proved futile and the terrorists again started threatening to cut the children's throats."

Four African nationalists armed with machineguns, who said they belonged to the Liberation Front of Somaliland — the previous name of this tiny but strategic territory on East Africa's coast — seized the school bus on Tuesday as it made its early morning round. The four gunmen held captive for 35 hours 30 French children from 6 to 12 years old and their bus driver.

The nationalists had demanded immediate independence for this territory, and numerous other concessions, in exchange for the children's lives. They had threatened to execute their little hostages by cutting their throats if the demands were not met.

Special police marksmen and anti-terrorist police arrived from Paris yesterday morning and the decision to attack was made. The French negotiators made a final offer — the contents have not been disclosed — and then launched the assault.

Christian le Blanc, High Commissioner of the territory of Djibouti, said. "Our marksmen opened fire at precisely the same moment, immediately killing five African nationalists. A sixth was critically wounded but was able to let off a burst of machinegun fire that killed a little girl." (AP, UPI)



THE YUNDEFF BOYS, Menahem, right, and Dov, seen yesterday waiting their return to Germany, in the company of their police escort and vacationing members of the force at the Netanya police rest home near Netanya. Story, page 2.

Port guards accept stripes; no one left to do the work

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
JERUSALEM — The men of the port guard who were promoted to sergeant as compensation when their work here was taken over by the border police, now refuse to do guard duties. They claim that sergeants are in a supervisory grade and acting as ordinary guards is an affront to their dignity. They were given sergeant's stripes to induce them to move from Haifa Port to Kishon. The men have the full backing of the Labour Council. With their promotion, there are now not enough guards left on the force. Council Secretary Eliezer Molk yesterday sent a strongly worded letter to the port manager, charging that he was violating

the work contract by deploying the sergeants in the most junior function of guard. He demanded that the order be rescinded pending the report of the parity committee that is soon to be established to review the port guard dispute.

The dispute broke out last Sunday, when the border police took over here and the remaining port guard men were transferred to the Kishon auxiliary port. Most of the men had been retired; only 47 who refused retirement are still left.

Mr. Molk also warned the port manager against "violating the peace in the port" such as he did with his announcement that the port guard must be abolished, following last Sunday's sit-down

strike by the men. The manager said he considered the strike a grave action and unprecedented by men who are members of a police force, in charge of keeping order in the port.

Port spokesman Yair Bar-Mashiah rejected the Council's charges. He noted that, with the promotions, half the remaining men are now officers or sergeants, and if they refuse to take part in guard duties, there are not enough men left. The management did not consider their dignity would be hurt if the sergeants act as "senior guards." He noted that the management intended to abolish what was left of the force, but by mutual agreement, as most of the men had already been retired or transferred to other vacant port jobs.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy with possibility of rain.

Weather synopsis: Upper trough from Turkey to east Mediterranean causes instability in our region.

| | Humidity | Yesterday's | Today's | Min-Max | Min-Max |
|-------------|----------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Jerusalem | 36 | 6-11 | 8-9 | 6-11 | 8-9 |
| Golan | 65 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Nahariya | 65 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Safed | 77 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Haifa | 77 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Theriac | 74 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Nazareth | 74 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Afula | 74 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Shomron | 74 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Tel Aviv | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| B-G Airport | 16 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Jericho | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Gaza | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Beersheba | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Eilat | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |
| Tiran | 44 | 10-15 | 10-10 | 10-15 | 10-10 |

Social and Personal

Austria's Ambassador to the United Nations, Dr. Peter Jankowitz, yesterday called on Histadrut Secretary-General Yerubam Meshel.

A group of 80 members of the Voluntary Tourist Service — headed by Tony Morgenstern, national president; Miriam Granot, national chairman; and Annette Goldberg, Jerusalem chairman — yesterday attended a reception held in their honour at the Jewish National Fund head office.

The speaker at today's meeting of the Tel Aviv Rotary Club will be Beersheba Mayor Eliahu Nawi, who will speak on "The Palestinianization of Israel's Arabs" — 1.30 p.m. at the ZOA House.

Yosef Tekoah, president of Ben-Gurion University, will speak at a meeting of the Jerusalem Branch of the Israeli Association of University Women, on "Israel and the UN," on Saturday, February 7, 8.30 p.m., at the Van Leer Foundation. Guests are welcome.

Dr. David Kolib of Bar-Ilan University will lecture (in English) on "Israel and Her Arab Neighbours" on the International Scene, 1949-67," at 8.30 tonight, at the ZOA House in Tel Aviv.

New Thai Ambassador presents credentials

The new Ambassador of Thailand, Nipon Wilairat, yesterday presented his letters of credence to President Katzir at Beit Hanassi in Jerusalem.

The Government was represented at the ceremony by Foreign Minister Yigal Allon.

The Police Band played the Israeli and Thai national anthems.

Police to go on barring prayers on Temple Mount

The existing police directives on "maintaining peace and public order" on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem remain in effect — despite a court ruling last week which asserted Jews have a right to pray there — Police Minister Shimon Hillel said yesterday.

Hillel was responding to a query by City Councilor Gershon Salomon, who asked the police to alter its policy in the wake of the court ruling. The police directives, at present, bar organized prayer by Jews on the Temple Mount, apparently in the fear that Moslems' objections will lead to violence.

Hillel relied on a 1970 High Court of Justice ruling, which rejected an application for an order nisi against the Police Minister, saying the Temple Mount was "a special situation," in which political and security considerations had to be included; and it was left up to the Government to "decide on the appropriate steps."

IMPORTS of durable goods reached \$13.2m. in November 1975 — the highest monthly figure since October 1974 — according to figures published yesterday by the Bank of Israel.

Our sympathies to Helen Green on the death of her

FATHER

Kibbutz Mahanayim

In deep sorrow, we announce the death, after a prolonged illness, of my dear wife, our mother, grandmother and great-grandmother

HEDWIG (Hete) NAWRATZKI

who bequeathed her body to science. Please refrain from visits.

Dr. Curt Nawratzki
Frieda Nawratzki
Amnon and Judith Navar
Reuben and Hannah Navar (Nawratzki)
Judith and David Danino
Dagant, Anat and Michal

We mourn with the family the loss of

JULIUS MODEL

who was always ready with advice and help.

His Closest Friends

In deep sorrow, we announce the untimely death of our dear mother, my sister, our sister-in-law

CHANA ODENTS (née Prager)

who died aged 48.

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, February 5, 1976, at 2.30 p.m. at Holon Cemetery.

We shall meet at the new gate to the cemetery.

Mourners
Children, Yehuda, Tehila, Moshe
Brother, Herbert Prager and family
Brother and sister-in-law,
Avraham and Malka Odents
Brother and sister-in-law,
Dov and Gilla Odents
Brother and sister-in-law,
Pinhas and Esther Odents
Sister-in-law, Lea Odents, U.S.

הגדל האדום

Yundeffs resigned to boys' return

By YITZHAK OKED

TEL AVIV. The uncles of Menahem (9) and Dov Yundeff (8) conceded yesterday that they had lost the legal battle to keep the boys in Israel and had turned their attention to waging a new battle in Germany over the children's custody.

The boys are expected to be flown to their father in Germany either today or tomorrow, in delayed execution of a year-old High Court order.

The Ben-Artzi yesterday began examining the means of transferring their dwindling personal resources abroad, both for the legal proceedings and to support their sister Sarah Yundeff's stay in Germany. It is believed they may have to ask for public support in this new legal battle.

Mrs. Yundeff, who three years ago took the boys to Israel during divorce proceedings, has — according

to her relatives — also given up the fight to keep the boys here. She was still with her sons yesterday at the Ne'urim police rest home — despite a High Court order separating Dov and Menahem from their mother. This was issued at the request of the Court Execution Office on the assumption that this might make it easier to carry out the earlier order that the boys be flown to Germany (where a court awarded the father temporary custody).

The children and their mother seemed slightly more relaxed yesterday, the uncles said, having realized that their legal battle in Israel is over. According to Israel Radio, the boys spoke by telephone with their father Yosef Yundeff in Berlin. He told them he was anxiously awaiting their arrival, and they would be happy with him. When asked how he would receive their mother, he reportedly promised he would also welcome her.

Yesterday morning Yosef Ben-Artzi lost a bid to get the execution officer, Judge David Bar-Ophir, to delay execution of the back-to-Germany order. The uncle had promised that if the mother and children were freed he would prepare all three for their trip to Germany and would even accompany them.

The father's lawyer, Dov Yisraeli, yesterday cancelled his application for a High Court injunction which would have ordered El Al to fly Menahem and Dov to their father in Germany. He decided to do this after two justices advised him instead that, should the need arise, he take legal action against any individual pilot who refuses to fly the boys, rather than against the airline.

Army weapons found in East Jerusalem

A sanitation worker early yesterday found two 105mm artillery shells, a bazooka rocket and two anti-tank grenades in a rubbish cart on Ibn el-Wallid Street in East Jerusalem.

A police spokesman said the weapons, all of the type used by the IDF, were not primed to go off and were apparently disposed of by someone wishing to get rid of war booty.

Security forces, who are treating the incident seriously due to the fact that the weapons were found in the Arab sector, are looking for whoever left them on the street.

Hospital official held for soliciting bribes

Rachel Pincus, chief housekeeper at Haifa's Rambam Hospital, was remanded in three days' custody Tuesday on suspicion of soliciting bribes from labour contractors who transported cleaning workers to the hospital.

One of the contractors is believed to have been Yisrael Friedman, whose murder on the West Bank last May remains unsolved. Friedman had complained to police about Pincus before his death, but an investigation at the time turned up no incriminating evidence.

Knesset Member Pessah Grupper charged several months ago that Friedman's murder was connected to an extortion ring which demanded kickbacks from those who — like Friedman — transported workers from the occupied territories to their jobs across the Green Line.

Police told the remaining judges they have new evidence against Pincus relating to her activities in 1973/74, and asked that she be jailed until the investigation is completed.

Several other bribery cases are now being dealt with by the courts. In Tel Aviv, Shmuel Kaplan, an army vehicle inspector, and Tel Aviv garage owner Yehoshua Asherov were remanded on Tuesday for 10 days for respectively paying and receiving a bribe.

A police spokesman said the case,

involving illegal payments for assessing damage to military vehicles, may be one of many affecting army workers and the owners of private garages, and that material handed over to the court may incriminate higher military officials, including a lieutenant colonel.

The Tel Aviv District Court has convicted Transport Ministry official Yossi Levi of attempting to bribe a Peugeot dealer. But sentencing was deferred.

Levi, 40, was indicted last spring together with over a dozen Transport and Defence Ministry officials accused of accepting bribes in exchange for awarding purchase contracts. Levi was convicted of offering to buy 2,000 Peugeot vans for the Defence Ministry in exchange for payment — in foreign currency — from Peugeot's Israeli branch manager, Levi denied the charge, claiming that he merely informed the Peugeot manager of the ministry's need for vans, without demanding any payment.

Haifa traffic police sergeant Meir Yehalomli fared better in his court hearing on Tuesday: he was cleared of bribery charges. A resident of Kabuli had claimed to have paid Yehalomli IL600, through a third party, to avoid having his driver's licence revoked after a traffic accident. (Nim)

Customs sleuth says he knew of cover-ups

TEL AVIV. — Customs investigator Michael Ofek has charged that upper echelons of the customs department had acted to prevent a raid on a firm managed by the son of Customs and Excise chief David Peled (who is in custody on suspicion of bribe-taking and currency violations).

Ofek, who gave a press conference at Beit Sokolov Tuesday to make his charges, afterward said he himself has been on leave from the customs department's investigations unit since being released after questioning in connection with an alleged customs violation.

In the course of his two-hour press conference, Ofek said the firm managed by Peled's son had ordered several thousands metres of artificial fur from abroad. As the fur was to be used in articles for export,

it was exempted from certain customs duties. But, he charged, the fur was sold to a Tel Aviv merchant. Customs should therefore have been paid, Ofek said, but orders were handed down not to interfere.

In another instance, an importer of electronic equipment was to have given an account of his inventory after a devaluation. But, Ofek said, he himself was prevented from checking the merchandise after the owner of the firm telephoned another official in the customs investigations unit. The firm's owner was allowed to present the inventory unchecked, he said.

Explaining his own detention by police, Ofek said he was arrested two weeks ago and held for 48 hours on suspicion of having taken a bribe from the manager of the Yutec plant in Ashdod, Yuzik Alkan.

A spokesman for the department said yesterday that a complaint would be lodged with the police concerning Ofek's use of "secret material." Informed of this, Ofek said, he had preferred to call a press conference rather than send an anonymous letter to the police, as he said so many citizens were doing. He was not using secret material, nor had he taken files out of the customs offices. He was simply telling reporters what was on his mind, he said.



Four hundred irate parents of the 600 pupils of the Carmel school in Rehov Emek Refa'im, Jerusalem, vote last night to close the school on Monday if the Health Ministry does not cancel plans to open a clinic for drug addicts near the school. (Sunphot)

Failure to register Haifa lands will be costly, survey finds

By YA'ACOV ARDON

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The lack of proper records for municipal real estate worth hundreds of millions of pounds has led to encroachment and abuse which may require the city to compensate veteran squatters, according to a survey by two officials of the city's manpower division.

In 23 tersely worded pages, engineers Ilan Perry and Shalom Aharoni note that the property is not registered either at City Hall or at the Land Registry (Tabu) office. Changes in the status of property are often incorrectly filed, the report claims; and in many cases squatters who have used city land for years can claim to have acquired it through sheer lapse of time.

The municipal administration's introduction, which is not signed by the authors, opens with the observation that "the survey by the Property Department was made at the request of His Honour, Mayor Yerubam Zeisel." In fact, however, the investigation went on for many months while the present mayor

was still deputy mayor. It was Yosef Almog who ordered the investigation and set up the property department.

At last night's City Council session, Mayor Zeisel sharply attacked the report. In reply to a motion by Councilor Ze'ev Katz (Likud), he described it as "a vilification of city officials." He said the report called for a thorough study and reply and would be discussed at a forthcoming City Executive meeting. "The report is inaccurate and unrealistic," he said. "No losses are foreseen, no properties are missing. A special official has been at work for some time to have all property recorded in the Land Registry... we know where about 99 per cent of our properties are located."

"It is true that some have not been registered for years, but that is being done now all the time. The report is looking for faults where none exist. I am sorry that I did not see the draft before it was published."

The mayor did not comment on the fact that the introduction credits him for having ordered it.

Central bank won't link tax refunds if loans are unlinked

By GIDION ESHET

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Bank of Israel is blocking implementation of an agreement between Israel and the International Monetary Fund to increase export incentives.

The agreement was that refunds of indirect taxes paid by exporters would be linked to the exchange rate — providing for a larger refund if a devaluation of the pound occurred after the taxes were paid. At present the refund is fixed, and such a change required approval by the IMF.

But, according to economic sources in Jerusalem, after the agreement was made, the Bank of Israel decided once again to push its demand to link the loans made to exporters

to the dollar. This demand had been rejected only a month ago by the Finance Minister, after the Commerce and Industry Ministry raised strong objections.

The central bank, it seems, has decided to refuse to grant the higher refunds until the entire loan issue is reviewed once more. The sources pointed out, however, that it was highly unlikely the Finance Minister would change his mind. The only possible change seen is a rise in the interest rate on such loans, from the present 6 per cent to 10 per cent.

The sources added that unless the higher refunds are introduced at once, there is very little chance of reaching the 11 per cent increase in exports forecast for 1976.

Border settlements to discuss the situation in Lebanon

Jerusalem Post Reporter

ROSH HANIKRA. — The chairman of the local councils of 11 settlements along the border with Lebanon will meet today to discuss the situation in south Lebanon and its potential dangers.

Some of them said yesterday they were surprised by the statement made by Defence Minister Shimon Peres on Tuesday, that Lebanese troops were moving back into the area. They said they had seen no such movement in the frontier positions across the border.

The first Lebanese to enter Israel officially in three months came through Rosh Hanikra yesterday. She was a Catholic nun, sister Maria Srayesh, who received a permit for a year's stay at the French Hospital in Nazareth, where she will work as a nurse.

A Catholic nurse who crossed into Lebanon returned here shortly afterward and reported that Lebanese troops had turned her back, since there was no one on hand to handle her papers. They also told her there were no safe means for her travel to Beirut.

Military sources yesterday con-

firmed that the Lebanese army had not yet returned to its forward observation positions, formerly manned by small detachments of soldiers which they had abandoned towards the end of the civil war in Lebanon. However, larger formations of the army which had moved north have returned to base camps in southern Lebanon, as Defence Minister Shimon Peres reported in a radio interview on Tuesday.

The sources had been asked to comment on the apparent contradiction between Peres' statement and the remarks by senior officers, who told foreign correspondents touring the area on Tuesday that the army had not returned to its positions.

The Public Council for the Support of Beate Klarsfeld demanded the immediate release of Serge Klarsfeld, in a telegram to the German Ambassador in Tel Aviv yesterday.

Serge — Beate's husband — was arrested in connection with a kidnapping bid in Frankfurt on Tuesday while petitioning the authorities to take measure against two Nazi war criminals.

The public council has scheduled a protest vigil in front of the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Tel Aviv.

The Associated Press reported from Cologne yesterday that court authorities said Klarsfeld would stand trial there for attempting to kidnap Kurt Lischka, the former Gestapo chief of Paris.

Man killed by train

TEL AVIV. — Two men were killed yesterday in separate accidents.

Moshe Schechter, 65, of Be'er Sheva was run over by a bus on Derech Petah Tikva. In Netanya, an Arab shepherd was killed by a train. The 63-year-old resident of Jenin was hit by the southbound train as he was walking on the tracks some 400 metres north of the Netanya junction. (Nim)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1976

Maritime defaulted on \$23.5m.

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The Maritime Fruit Carriers Group announced yesterday that the company had defaulted on payment of \$23.5m. but that it is attempting to work out a new settlement with its creditors.

The company's board of directors voted last week to remove the Israeli branch which had headed the firm's operations in Israel, and to transfer all management responsibilities, though they remain on the company's books.

The shipping company's financial situation has deteriorated since 1973 Yom Kippur War, but the announcement yesterday morning that it was unable to meet financial obligations, thus was the first indication that the company was teetering near bankruptcy.

A spokesman said that the company currently has total assets of \$550m. and liabilities of \$480m. Most of the assets are tied up in heavy equipment, including ships. The new managing director, H. Struve Hensel, would like to sell the financial problems with the creditors without having to sell any of these assets, a spokesman said.

The company's over-the-counter stock yesterday plummeted to new low of \$3-\$5 per share. (See tomorrow's magazine for profile of the company's rise and decline.)

Galilee Arabs barred from military area

Jerusalem Post Staff

Defence Minister Shimon Peres told the Knesset yesterday that inhabitants who were forced to move from IDF training zone in Central Galilee, would be compensated with land and houses elsewhere.

The Knesset then struck off agenda an urgent motion on matter by Tawfiq Toubi (New Communist), who claimed the Government was carrying out a racist programme to shift Arabs off their land to "Judea" Galilee. Toubi's partial support from Meir (Moked).

Police yesterday suspended a permit to enter the village of Sakhir, Arab and Druze, in the Galilee.

The authorities had claimed a number of persons had been injured or maimed in the zone by bullets or abandoned charges, but that the area was closed for safety.

Zone No. 9 has been a training area since the British Mandate, it covered 60,000 dunams. The Israeli Defence Forces have reduced the area to 27,000 dunams. The Arab farmers own or cultivate some 40,000 dunams in the zone.

'Don't want Weapons' arming enemies

Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Defence Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday that Israel had no representations to Western governments about the Arab contraband weapons acquiring Western weapons.

Replying to a Knesset question by Eliezer Avidor (NRP), Peres said Israel knew of a number of cases in which Western arms had reached such states. Egypt, he said, had received — via Libya — 100mm jets and 100mm and 150mm guns. Jordan had received P-51 jets via Iran, and the same P-51 had been deployed by the Saudi force over Syria, from Jordan territory.

Furthermore, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait had sent expeditionary forces equipped with Western arms to Syria and Egypt in the Yom Kippur War, he noted, and Syrian expeditionary forces with Western arms were to this day in Syria and Jordan.



Washington social break

In the talks held by Premier Rabin in the U.S., Post correspondent Wolf Blitzer reports on the controversial visit.

Ya'acov Friedler analyzes the troubles of the Maritime shipping empire.

Anwar Sadat discusses the careers and personalities of Egypt's Anwar Sadat and Syria's Hafez Assad.

David Landan takes a troubled look at two of Jerusalem's financial parlours.

This and more in tomorrow's

THE JERUSALEM POST MAGAZINE

Robbed bank had bad alarm system

By ARTHUR KEMELMAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

MAT GAN. — Neither the windows nor the air conditioner at Barclay's Discount Bank branch, whose deposit boxes were looted over the weekend, were linked to the electronic burglar alarm system.

A police official told The Jerusalem Post yesterday that the bank's alarm system was not working. Neither was the window connecting the air conditioner — the window through which the thieves entered the building. (After getting their way into the basement vault and rifling 200 safe deposit boxes, the thieves apparently made their way out through a window in a rest room on the bank's second floor.)

The police were yesterday still "stymied" about cracking the case. They said they were working on a new lead, but would not disclose the investigating team added over to bank officials the party the thieves had left behind the floor of the safe-deposit vault. The property — including mps, jewellery and stock certi-

ificates valued at several million pounds — filled twenty-six large boxes.

The bank reopened yesterday for the first time since the robbery and was swamped by angry customers who crowded in, yelling and shouting. A police officer, Paked Yitzhak Hageg, climbed up on a chair and tried to calm them by sympathizing with their feelings but noting that it was difficult to prevent robberies. The police spokesman said this helped restore order.

On Tuesday afternoon, some 200 of the bank's robbed clients gathered in a flat at 77 Rehov Bialik here to decide what steps to take against the bank — which has so far disclaimed all responsibility for the financial losses suffered by the safe-deposit box users.

Zvi Avrahami, one of the five members of a committee elected by the participants, told The Jerusalem Post that the committee will over the next few days be registering names and trying to determine the extent of the losses.

Avrahami said he had been in touch with a number of lawyers who claimed that the bank had both a moral and a legal responsibility to reimburse clients who had suffered by the theft.



The site of the former Zion Cinema in downtown Jerusalem — now an unofficial rubbish dump. The cinema was wrecked two years ago as part of an urban renewal project. (Eliyahu Harati)

Gov't to make up half of towns' new deficits

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Finance and Interior Ministers and the Union of Local Authorities have worked out a formula for dealing with the municipal deficits expected during the next fiscal year. But they have yet to agree about what to do in regard to current deficits, union officials said yesterday.

The two sides met in Jerusalem on Tuesday and agreed that Israel's local authorities may face a deficit of IL400m. in the 1976/77 fiscal year. This is based on an Interior Ministry estimate that the authorities' budgets will total IL6,500m., and that — with an average rise of 80 per cent in rates and business tax — the towns will be able to raise IL2,000m. of this on their own.

The IL400m. deficit is what will remain of the difference after the authorities have been reimbursed by the various Government ministries for supplying such mandatory services as education, welfare, health and road construction. Under the formula worked out between the two sides, the Interior Ministry will make up half of this sum — IL200m. Another IL200m. will be added to city coffers by intensifying tax-collection, and another IL200m. will be saved by municipal belt-tightening.

(The cities will get the IL200m. from the Interior Ministry only if they balance their budgets and do not deviate from Government economic policies. They must not increase wages, hire more employees, or take loans on the private money market.)

However, Union of Local Authorities sources have already cast doubt on their members' ability to raise meaningful sums either by intensifying tax collection or by cutting their expenses in a period of spiralling inflation. Moreover, there are cities — such as Tel Aviv — which refuse to raise their rates by more than 40 per cent.

Moreover, all this leaves unsolved the problem of the estimated IL375m. deficit accumulated by the local authorities this year. Finance Minister Yehoshua Rabinowitz has declared that the current fiscal year is a closed book as far as he is concerned, and that the cities will not get another agora for it. Interior Minister Josef Burg, however, disagrees: He says he does not see how the cities will manage next year if they are to be burdened by deficits carried over from the 1975/76 fiscal year. Dr. Burg plans to bring the matter up for discussion in the Cabinet.



Tobacco to be exported: Dubek refuses to buy it

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Tobacco growers in Galilee have received permission from the Agriculture Minister to export their tobacco, which they have been keeping in storage since October.

Minister Aharon Uzan told the growers he preferred to have them sell their crop to local industry — that is, Dubek, but the latter had refused to buy the 500 tons lying in storage.

In October Dubek announced it was about to close its processing plant in Safad for lack of tobacco. This led to a labour dispute with the 42 employees there, who charged that the Agriculture Ministry and the Tobacco Growers Council wanted to export their crop rather than sell it to Dubek.

Tnuva plans mass distribution centres

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

L. AVIV. — The Tnuva produce-marketing cooperative will set up its own large produce distribution centres in the major cities, to replace the "middlemen's cut," general manager Yitzhak Landman announced here yesterday at a meeting of the Tnuva Council.

He said the middleman problem is severe in Israel because of the "imitative" retail system, which sells "unadulterated" transport, nappies, extortion, and other items which inflate prices. Cutting the steps between producer and consumer, he hoped, would reduce prices.

Landman said the plan for distribution centres has the full backing of the Government and the Eilat. Tnuva is now seeking a 40-acre plot in Tel Aviv for the

first centre, and estimates the cost of the enterprise at IL40m. The company will consult a foreign firm on setting up these centres, Landman said.

The general manager said fines imposed on Tnuva, especially for defective dairy products, had been unjustly harsh. He said laws should be changed to take into consideration unavoidable failures in mass production. "We are talking about production of more than a billion units each year — and you cannot reach a zero defect level."

Landman also criticized the system of paying sales tax on the components of Tnuva packaging. The plastic cups and foil covers for milk products, for instance, account for 25 per cent of the retail price. He proposed that taxes on packaging materials be abolished for popular-priced items.

Almost all East Jerusalem pupils to take Jordanian curriculum

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

He revealed that he had brought back from Amman last week 20 textbooks currently used in the Jordanian school system, to be incorporated into the East Jerusalem curriculum next year.

Under the ministry's ruling, East Jerusalem's secondary schools can employ the curriculum followed in West Bank schools — which is identical to that of Jordanian schools — with the addition of two obligatory courses, Hebrew language and civics.

Rabi said the civics course was an obligation only in junior high school, and that he had no objection to the Hebrew requirement. "The children want to learn Hebrew," he said. He noted that East Jerusalemites enrolled in an adult education programme at the Rashadiya school paid for the privilege of learning Hebrew, while the children were able to study it free.

Although Education Ministry officials have stressed that the Jordanian curriculum is only one of two alternatives — the other being the curriculum offered in Israeli Arab schools — the Rashadiya headmaster said that "100 per cent" of East Jerusalem students will take the former curriculum. The only students taking the Israeli curriculum are the score of Israeli Arabs from Abu Ghosh and Beit Safafa enrolled in the school.

"I'm determined that no one from East Jerusalem will choose the Is-

rael programme," he said.

Asked if this determination stemmed from educational or political motives, he said, "Let's talk about education." He explained that 70 per cent of Rashadiya graduates go on to schools in Arab lands for which they need a Jordanian matriculation certificate. Only a handful had chosen to go to Israeli universities, he said.

Rabi praised Mayor Teddy Kollek for helping effect the curriculum change.

Rabi said his students met from time to time with groups of Israeli students who either asked to come to the Rashadiya school or invited him to their schools. "They have free discussions about the Palestinian issue and other subjects," he noted.

Rabi expressed the hope that the Jordanian curriculum would one day be extended to elementary schools in East Jerusalem as well.

Municipal officials have described the curriculum change as an extension of the open bridges policy, aimed at permitting East Jerusalem residents easier access to the Arab world.

Education Ministry workers slow down

By ERNIE MEYER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Administrative personnel at the Education Ministry yesterday started a slow-down strike in protest against the Ministry's part of a labour struggle to gain "specific allowances" like those received by workers in the Finance Ministry's income tax department.

The administrators held a protest meeting at the Education Ministry yesterday morning at which they declared a labour dispute. Their spokesman, Rami Ran, said that the "progressive sanctions" were likely to paralyse most operations of the Ministry within three days.

The Education Ministry personnel are joined in their struggle by colleagues at five other ministries — Finance, Labour, Interior, Absorption and Labour.

Education Minister Aharon Yadin yesterday deplored the fact that the workers started sanctions with-

out first discussing their claims with him. He said that three days ago he had suggested a meeting, but that the workers had told him they could not arrange it in time. A meeting was then set for tomorrow, Yadin said, but the workers nevertheless started sanctions.

Ministry officials say that the workers have no right to take sanctions without the approval of the Civil Servants Union — which they did not secure. The moment this approval is given, the ministry proposes setting up a parity committee to arbitrate the dispute, the officials say.

The Civil Servants Union last night sent a telegram to the Education Ministry staff, asking them to stop their sanctions. The telegram read in part: "We support your struggle, but labour sanctions are against our declared policy. We call on you to stop all sanctions, since they do not advance your cause."

Golda praises Georgian Jews

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

L. AVIV. — Former Prime Minister Golda Meir yesterday lauded the Georgian Jews for "hardly dropping out en route to Israel or later emigrating from this country." She was speaking at a conference to announce that she will be designated as Georgia's Jewry Month.

Meir noted that Georgian immigrants are among the most misunderstood groups in Israel. They were sent to Israel for many decades, said — a fact which "proves the unity of the Jewish people and attests to a saga whose educational we cannot be over-estimated." She

recalled the letter from 18 Georgian families which she had read aloud in the Knesset in 1969 and which was one of the first signs of the Zionist awakening of recent years in the USSR. She said it was one of the most important Zionist documents, which "should be read by anyone who wishes to know what our ties to this land are."

A Georgian immigrant, Paula Baasov presented Meir with a book about her father, Rabbi David Baasov, and her brother, Herzl, who were among the foremost Zionists in Georgia during the first decades of the century. Both were arrested during the Stalinist purges of 1938, exiled to Siberia and sentenced to death. The father escaped execution,

but Herzl Baasov was put to death at the age of 33, as an "imperialist agent." Only in the 1960s was his name officially "rehabilitated" and his many writings published again. (Meir heads a recently established public council for the commemoration of the Baasovs.)

During Jewish Month, rallies will be held in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, schoolchildren will be taught about the Jews of Georgia and the Baasov family, who will also be featured on radio and television programmes.

Reporters were told yesterday that more Georgian Jews than exist in Georgia according to official Soviet statistics have asked for invitations from relatives in Israel, the first step in the immigration process. The Soviet claim that in 1971 there were no more than 65,000 Jews in Georgia, but since then there have been 61,000 individual visa applications. Georgian Jewish sources claim there were 80,000 Jews in Georgia in the late 1960s. More than 28,000 Georgian Jews have come to Israel since 1968, comprising almost one-fourth of the immigration from the USSR in recent years.

Economically, Georgian Jews are better off than other Soviet Jews and suffer less from anti-Semitism. Most of their children continue to receive some form of Jewish education even under the Communist regime. They forcibly resisted the closure of synagogues, and about one-half of all synagogues in the USSR today are to be found in Georgia.

Today immigration from Georgia is more difficult than it was only a few years ago, when many Georgian Jews owned private property and sold it before leaving for Israel. Today most immigrants must give up the bulk of their property before coming here.

Drive to increase Jewish tourism

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The Ministry of Tourism, in connection with Jewish communities and various branches of the tourism industry in Israel, is making a concerted effort to reverse a continuing drop in Jewish tourism here, the ministry's director-general, Abraham Rosenman, said Jerusalem yesterday.

For its part, Israel is planning a series of events and programmes to receive the visitors in this "Pilgrimage Year." These include tours to broaden historical knowledge of Israel, Zionism and Jewry; special entertainment and recreational programmes; tours, visits to kibbutzim and army camps, and meetings with heads of various communities.

Rosenman stressed the need to publicize the programme. The ministry has a list of families ready to receive visitors, tourists wishing to meet Israel in their homes, he pointed



Emblem of Pilgrimage Year

out. But the ministry hopes to enlist more than 30,000 such families throughout the country.

BID TO BLOCK COLOUR TV

USEF SARID (Alignment) warned in the Education Committee yesterday that he would organize a elementary majority prohibiting Broadcasting Authority from making preparations for colour television if it does not drop the idea within Israel can't afford colour for 10 years at least, Sarid said.

DISCRIMINATION by the Tel Aviv municipality against employees engaged at the age of 50 or over, by giving them pension rights, was ruled by Hillel Seidel (ILP) yesterday in a parliamentary question to Interior Minister Josef Burg.

DOWERS would be entitled to give the pension funds access to their late wives' assets, under a bill by Yehoshua Rabinowitz (Alignment) yesterday. The existing law entitles heirs to inherit their late husbands' pensions, but deprives widows of the parallel right.

HOUSE SPEAKER Yisrael Yeshanu asked Attorney-General Aharon Barak yesterday for an opinion on the demand of Zalman Shoval (Likud) that Labour and Mapam no more monthly party finance allocations because they violated law by getting money raised in America from the Histadrut treasuries.

EMPLOYEES' PENSION rights will be fully guaranteed, even though employers failed to deposit the requisite payments in the pension funds, under a new amendment to

Knesset Briefs

the Wages Protection Law tabled by Moshe Wertheim and Shoshana Arbell (Alignment) yesterday.

BIG RESERVES of empty flats earmarked for immigrants are available in development areas, the Labour Committee noted yesterday in a series of recommendations on the subject. Convenient rental arrangements are provided for young couples wishing to move to development areas, the committee said.

REAL ESTATE registered under the name of a company would be transferable tax free to the name of the person owning it, and the company liquidated, under a private members' bill by Yehoshua Rabinowitz (Alignment) yesterday. The Finance Committee yesterday. Rabinowitz explained that people registered flats or plots in the names of companies — specially formed for that purpose at one time — for technical reasons which no longer exist.

MINIMUM WAGE laws presented yesterday as private members' bills by Yoram Aridor (Likud) and Boaz Moav (CRM) were struck off the agenda yesterday, after Labour Minister Moshe Baran persuaded the House that the fixing of minimum wages was best left to the collective agreements negotiated by the Histadrut. Jacques Amir (Alignment) abstained, while Yehuda Ben-Meir (NRP) voted against the Government.

OLD ACRE should be transformed into a city of tourists and holiday-makers, the Labour Committee resolved yesterday. The present residents should be given new homes in the vicinity.

COINS & MEDALS Corp. director-general Yitzhak Avni will give the corporation back the medals given him by the board of directors, board chairman Mordechai Surkis told the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday. The previous board chairman, Amos Maoz, will also return the gold medal which he bought at a great discount, Surkis said.

NORTH AFRICAN Jewry's history will be given its due place in the history syllabus, Education Minister Aharon Yadin promised Jacques Amir (Alignment), in reply to his motion for the agenda yesterday. A history textbook by Dr. Ephraim Shmueli, which glossed over North African Jewry, will be withdrawn as of next year, Yadin announced. Amir complained that the few references in other textbooks to North African Jewry depicted the community in a false light as having been barren culturally and spiritually.

SHORT-WAVE radio broadcasts from Israel to the Americas can only resume if and when wage arrangements are negotiated with the studio technicians regarding night shifts, Education Minister Aharon Yadin told Michael Harish (Alignment) yesterday, replying to his motion for the agenda. Even then, Yadin cautioned, the only funding available as yet is a Jewish Agency allocation for 30 minutes of broadcasts to Latin America.

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SWISSAIR

INDEPENDENT LINE ADVOCATED

French Communists hit Soviet repression

PARIS. — French Communist Leader Georges Marchais opened his party's 22nd congress yesterday with a stinging attack on the Soviet Union for repression of individual freedoms.

"We cannot agree to the Communist ideal being stained by unjust and inhuman acts," he said. "Such acts are in no way a necessary consequence of socialism."

Underlining his party's recent shift away from Moscow towards an independent French line, Marchais also called for an extension of Communist appeal in France beyond the working class to other levels of society.

He spoke for more than four hours in a wide-ranging declaration launching the Congress, a meeting which could have a considerable impact on the left wing political scene throughout Western Europe.

Frequently applauded by 1,700 delegates, predominantly young and including many women, the 55-year-old Communist chief balanced his attack on the Soviet Union with a denunciation of the West's current record on political freedom.

Marchais expressed strong reservations about his party's alliance with the French Socialists — but said the partnership was indispensable in the fight for true socialism in France.

His criticism of Soviet political repression came one day after a press conference given here by dissident Soviet mathematician Leonid Plyushch, who was detained for two and a half years in a Ukraine mental asylum.

With representatives of all world

Communist parties except those of China and Albania, and including Andrei Kirilenko, secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet party and a close associate of Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, he said, "The France of today is not the Russia of 1917 or the Czechoslovakia of 1948. No party or group of parties can legislate for the others, propose universal recipes, or define an exemplary strategy."

"It is thus inevitable, it is good, that we follow an independent line of struggle to achieve socialism," Marchais said to applause. He asked the French party delegates to instruct the Central Committee to amend the party statutes to eliminate references to the "dictatorship of the proletariat."

The French party is conducting a major campaign for increased personal liberties in France to be enshrined in a sort of French bill of rights, has attacked imprisonment of dissidents in the Soviet Union and supported the recent campaign for the release of Plyushch.

Referring to the Communists' joint electoral action with the Socialists and other non-Communist leftist parties in France that came close to victory in the 1974 presidential elections, Marchais said the Communists formed an important part of the struggle, had "a directing influence" but "no administrative character whatsoever" and "is not equivalent to a monopoly."

"The working class must take its place among other strata of society in the struggle towards socialism," Marchais said.

(Reuters, AP)

Work starts on making Suez Canal larger

SUEZ. — Work began yesterday on the first stage of a massive project to deepen and widen the Suez Canal, allowing the passage of super-tankers.

At a ground-breaking ceremony here at the southern end of the 160 kms. waterway, representatives of the Tokyo-based Penta Ocean Construction Company said the first stage should be completed in three years.

Estimated to cost about \$68m, the first phase of the extension pro-

gramme would allow the transit through the canal of 150,000-ton tankers fully loaded, company president Tetsuro Mizuno said.

The chairman of the Suez Canal Authority, Moshour Ahmed Moshour, said 6,291 ships had used the canal since it reopened last June. Last month, 1,167 ships passed through the waterway.

The average of 29 ships a day since the reopening is just under half the average daily traffic before the waterway's closure by the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. Last month's average daily traffic was 30. A Canal Authority spokesman said in Port Said yesterday that a record 56 ships went through the canal yesterday.

Navigation in the canal was stopped on Tuesday by a violent sandstorm. Egypt awarded the contract for implementation of the project to Penta because it was the lowest of five bidders, who included American and Belgian firms.

The project will increase permissible ship draft from the present 38 feet (11.5 metres) to 53 feet (16 metres), thereby allowing transit by ships of up to 150,000 tons fully loaded and about 300,000 tons in ballast, according to canal officials.

This is the first phase of a two-stage development programme. In the second, the officials said, it is hoped to have ships with a draft of 67 feet (20 metres) to travel through the waterway.

(AP)

(Reuters, UPI)



Winter Olympics opens in Innsbruck

INNSBRUCK. — The 12th Winter Olympics opened yesterday against a background of white Alpine peaks, Tyrolean horns and police security cordons so tight that several spectators fainted when they were jammed against a protective fence.

A covey of green and blue balloons lifted into the air as the Austrian President, Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, declared the games open.

The Olympic flame rose brightly in the afternoon mist that had settled over the Innsbruck Valley and its stadium out into the mountains.

The fear of terrorist attack led to the security checks and a confusing crush trying to get into the stadium, with thousands of spectators jammed into a narrow ramp. Soldiers lifted a woman in a long coat over the heads of the crowd in the stadium after she was overcome. An ambulance which picked her up inside the grounds was barely able to leave.

As trumpeters played a fanfare, Sapporo's Mayor Takeshi Itagaki passed the Olympic flag to Innsbruck Mayor Alois Lugger. Sapporo was the site of the 1972 winter games.

Following a three-gun salute fired by an Austrian army howitzer battery, a flock of carrier-pigeons were let loose from their cages carrying the message: "Olympic flame arrived in Innsbruck Bergisel Stadium on February 4, 1976, 3 p.m."

On this one, Olympic torch bearer Josef Feistmantl, a 1964 Austrian gold medalist, jogged into the stadium wearing a red training suit. He ignited a wide-mouthed, shallow urn symbolizing the 1976 games. Austrian Education Minister Fred Sinowatz, President of the Innsbruck Organizing Committee, began his welcoming address and then ran into trouble with the microphone. He drew laughter from the crowd when he repeated a line in his speech that "technical perfection was not our sole aim."

After brief remarks by Lord Killanin, President of the International Olympic Committee, Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger rose and declared in a firm voice at 2.15 p.m. GMT: "I declare the 1976 12th Winter Olympic Games in Innsbruck open."

(AP)

RABIN IN HOLLYWOOD Henry the comedian takes top award

Jerusalem Post Correspondent and agencies

HOLLYWOOD. — Nearing the end of his U.S. tour, Prime Minister Rabin was treated by the entertainment capital on Tuesday night to a 1,200-guest banquet which included more celebrities than show up for the Academy Awards, and which featured Henry Kissinger in the role of unscheduled comedian.

Kissinger's humour was in such good form, in fact, that Rabin, during his speech, quipped: "The world of entertainment lost a great talent when Dr. Kissinger decided to turn to Harvard instead of Hollywood."

When Kissinger stumbled on his way to the microphone, master-of-ceremonies Frank Sinatra said the Secretary of State was "beginning to act like President Ford." (Ford was the object of jokes in Hollywood after taking several falls in front of news cameras, in the past.)

Kissinger retorted: "In Washington I don't usually follow such a talent — but I am accustomed to standing before professionals who are watching my timing, and trying to get my Harvard accent straight."

The Secretary had some barbs for Rabin as well. "We have the silent understanding of old friends," he said, adding, "Silence is not a somebody's hand."

GLANCE AT THE WORLD

Bergman suspected of tax fraud

STOCKHOLM. — Film director Ingmar Bergman has been admitted to a hospital after a nervous breakdown, the Stockholm Royal Dramatic Theatre announced yesterday. Friends said he had the breakdown after authorities notified him he was suspected of tax fraud.

Legal proceedings will be brought against Bergman during the next few days, prosecuting attorney Curt Dreifaldt said. Bergman is accused of failing to report \$113,000 in income on his 1971 tax return and channelling the money into a company he owned in Switzerland.

The Swedish director was rehearsing a Strindberg play at the Royal Dramatic Theatre last Friday when he was taken into police custody. Interrogated for five hours and ordered not to leave Stockholm. Police said the prosecution have been forced to act quickly because tax crimes committed in 1971 cannot be prosecuted after February 15. If the suspect is not legally notified of the suspicions before that date he goes free.

Poll for 'Democratic Cambodia'

BANGKOK. — Cambodians will vote on March 30 for a 250-member legislative assembly which will be the Communist-controlled country's supreme body, Radio Phnom Penh announced yesterday.

The radio said the date for the first election since the Khmer Rouge victory last April over the American-backed regime of Marshal Lon Nol had been fixed by the government of "democratic Cambodia."

Under a new constitution announced a month ago, the People's Representative Assembly will be responsible for legislation, defining internal and foreign policy, choosing the government and appointing a state president, the body which appears designated to fill the functions of head of state.

Bid to murder Bokassa

PARIS. — President Jean Bedel Bokassa of the Central African Republic narrowly escaped death in an assassination attempt in Bangui, the country's capital, and thwarted an abortive plot aimed at ending his 10 year iron-fisted rule, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The said an unknown assailant threw a grenade at the 53-year-old Marshal-President on Tuesday at the airfield, but a bodyguard knocked Bokassa to the ground and protected him with his body. The grenade explosion killed a presidential aide, diplomatic sources said.

10 die in New York fire

NEW YORK. — A fire sent poisonous fumes through an apartment house here early yesterday, killing 10 persons, seven of them children, and hospitalizing 10 others. Thirty families were driven out into freezing weather.

The blaze in the six-storey building apparently began shortly after midnight in an overstuffed chair in a first-floor rear apartment. The fire was brought under control after more than two hours.

At the height of the scramble to flee the building, neighbours heaped bulging plastic garbage bags onto the sidewalk to cushion the fall of children jumping from windows. The bodies of two children were found on the first floor. Eight other bodies, including those of five children, were found in a rear apartment on the sixth floor. Four were found huddled together.

Zaire gov't reshuffled

KINSHASA. — President Mobutu yesterday reshuffled his government and the political bureau of his ruling Popular Revolutionary Movement party.

After consecutive meetings of the two bodies, the national news agency AZAP announced the Political Bureau membership had been reduced from 32 to 19. All outgoing members will start on a diplomatic career "so as to disseminate Mobutism abroad," AZAP said.

The remaining 19 bureau members will have to "study the major problems facing Zaire," every one of them having been given a precise task, the announcement said.

(Reuters)

Mercenaries said fighting MPLA

LONDON. — The Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) is claiming significant numbers of foreign mercenaries have appeared alongside its enemies in the country's civil war, a British correspondent reported yesterday.

Jane Burger of the "Financial Times" said MPLA military sources claimed the mercenaries were recruited in the U.S. and Western Europe and have joined the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) in the north and the National Union for the Total Liberation of Angola (UNITA) in the south.

Meanwhile, she said, the Benguela rail head port of Lobito appears to be a no-man's land, and the MPLA "is meeting thickly spread mine fields in its advance into the ports unofficially reported evacuated by UNITA."

MPLA ordered a three-man British commercial television team out of the capital of Luanda on Tuesday night. On Monday the MPLA had expelled the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent. The reason for the latest expulsions was not known.

However, Nicholas Ashford, reporting from Luanda for "The Times," said the three TV men were detained on Tuesday while filming the arrival of Cuban soldiers and military equipment at Luanda port. After being held for several hours they were put under house arrest at their hotel and were due to be deported yesterday, he said.

Martin Bell, a reporter for BBC television, was shown on British television screens on Tuesday night moving around in Luanda. At the docks he was pictured against a background of ships unloading Soviet and Cuban equipment, including a Russian tank. Cuban army trucks towing artillery were filmed driving through the streets and cigar-chomping Cubans with mustaches were shown strobing and toasting in the city. The Cubans looked smart in uniform and mostly undisturbed by the cameras.

Over the border from Angola in Luanda, Zambia, the "Daily Telegraph" correspondent reported that the MPLA advance into the land of UNITA-held territory stalled, if only temporarily, as the Marxist forces were finding it more difficult to sustain their lengthening lines of supply. He said reports in Luanda that UNITA still fully in control of Angola's biggest port, Lobito, also is the terminus of the Benguela railway.

In Moscow, Marshal Grechko, the Soviet Defence Minister, has cabled the MPLA to report new successes in the war, it was reported yesterday.

"Soviet servicemen send fraternal greetings and wishes of support to the People's Army of Angola for the Liberation of Angola, for the struggle against foreign aggression and internal reaction for the homeland's freedom and independence," Grechko declared.

Meanwhile the U.S. Defence Department has expressed its wish to see the UNITA-FNLA alliance to the civil war so American might planes and ships can have access to airfields and ports in Angola.

This U.S. stake in Angola was stated for the first time Tuesday by Deputy Defence Secretary Herbert Ellsworth. But he said Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Africa that at this point it would take more than a year to assure that Angolan factions friendly to the U.S. could achieve even a stalemate in their war with the Soviet-backed MPLA.

Yesterday, South African Defence Minister P. W. Botha said that country still has between 4,000 and 5,000 troops inside Angola, patrolling areas from the Atlantic coast to the Zambian border.

In an interview reported by "Johannesburg Star," Botha said South Africa was ready to withdraw from the Angolan conflict as it was satisfied Portugal's former colony will not be used to over-run South West Africa (Namibia).

He said the depth of the occupation by South African troops extended to 50 kms. inside Angola but he admitted they had been much deeper and with "much more" in the past.

Algiers quiet on Cairo mediation efforts

ALGERIA. — Algeria remained silent yesterday on an Egyptian initiative for the Algerian and Moroccan foreign ministers to visit Cairo for talks leading to an eventual summit on the western Sahara.

The Egyptian proposal, reported by the Middle East News Agency (MENA), has not been published in the Algerian press and there has been no indication so far here of the outcome of the visits of Egyptian Vice-President Hosni Mubarak, who has had four rounds of talks with President Houari Boumedienne.

The Algerian News Agency reported that the Vice-President held three meetings with King Hassan III, but these meetings in Morocco have not been reported in Algeria.

The Algerian press had said that any attempt to find a compromise which did not fully take into account the wishes and rights of the Saharans was bound to fail.

The semi-official daily "El Moudjahid" yesterday carried as its headline for a commentary on the future visit to the area of Olaf Rydbeck, Sweden's UN representative: "The valid interlocutor — the Polisario Front."

None of the Arab envoys have come to Algeria since the battle in the Sahara between Algerian and Moroccan troops last year has been reported meeting Polisario representatives.

The commentary in "El Moudjahid" said the argument that the Sahara was not viable as a state because of its small population, estimated by Spanish sources as about 75,000 — was refuted by the fact that countries as small as the UN.

Rydbeck yesterday began his mission as Secretary-General of the UN. He is expected to visit Morocco, Mauritania or Algeria, the three countries most directly involved in the dispute.

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SHLOMO LAMAR Mayor

Putting ballet into 'the box'

DANCE
DORA SOWDEN

WITH THE increasing popularity of ballet, more and more has been televised. Yet the question of whether ballet is really transferable to the "box" has not been entirely answered. If wrongly filmed, television ballet may easily destroy public interest. So much depends on how the director handles the work and which works he actually selects.

Since he came here from Britain eight years ago, Paul Salinger has been a freelance director of television ballet and is now televising two new Hill Sagan works: "Sweet Ignorance" and "In Darkness Falls Upon Us," both danced by the Israeli Classical Ballet. He is also working on children's ballets for the public programme, collaborating with three choreographers from the Bat Dor Studios (Liora Kendric, Siki Gol and Sheila Levy). In the past he has filmed a number of Bat Dor ballets, including "And After..."

Also a Sagan creation, which drew a great deal of praise in Sweden. Filming ballet for television, or indeed any screen, is not just a matter of transferring it from the stage to celluloid. This is, in fact, the most successful method. So Paul Salinger works mostly in film studios. But that is only the beginning of the story and the problems. "In the theatre," he explains, "the audience has chosen to attend. In



Paul Salinger at the camera.

television, the film director makes the choice of what you see; he decides what the cameras focus on. There are ballets, Salinger points out, that are simply not transferable to the screen, mostly classical ballets where the whole view must be held "from the tips of the fingers to the tips of the toes." If the meaning is to come through, yet keeping the camera fixed at the full view would dim the emphasis and become dull.

MODERN BALLETS, however, lend themselves much more to television treatment. There is a greater choice of what to concentrate on, what to give as a long shot, what as close-up, what to dissolve and superimpose and what to "shoot straight." The film director in effect becomes involved with the choreography.

"For instance," Salinger says, "when two dancers are far apart and it is necessary to show them both together, one has to close the space between them." For filming, the director may have to decide on a

diagonal line for what on stage may have been intended as a front view. Thus, part of the director's job is to interpret.

Paul Salinger admits that the camera can misinterpret. It can exaggerate elevation, over-emphasize underplay. Yet if the film director is creative, this can be an enhancement rather than a distortion. A BBC cameraman for seven years, Paul Salinger did much ballet filming there, working with Margaret Dale, the noted producer. "If you want to make successful television ballet programmes you've got to understand dance," is his simple prescription.

Ideally, he says, ballet should be created specifically for television — with the choreographer and film director consulting and creating together. He and Moshe Efrati worked for nine months on a ballet that was entered for the Italia Prize. Though it did not win anything, the experience itself was rewarding. Efrati understood the medium and Salinger understood the dance.

One of those beguiling romantic comedies

AT THE CINEMA

A telephone Bess (Zafon, Tel Aviv) is a bitter-sweet romantic comedy of the beguiling type that only the French studios seem to make nowadays and the late Edouard Groussin has given it the light, crisp direction it requires.

The story, written by Francis Weber who was the scenario-writer of Mollino's "L'Emmerdeur," concerns the meeting of a man and a woman from two different epochs. Castel (Pierre Mondy), the paternalistic owner of a factory in the 19th century, Christine (Mireille Darc), a cool and realistic young woman of today, is a girl not only because she makes a lot of money that way but also because she is the work. Sentiment is foreign to her.

A big American company is negotiating to take over the factory, which is not doing too well, and to put Castel into a yielding frame of mind, their public relations man introduces him to Christine "to help him pass his time pleasantly in Paris," saying she is his niece. The naive Castel takes the whole affair at face value and is not only proud of his "conquest" but falls in love with the alluring young lady. It is a crazy passion that disrupts his hitherto conventional life.

Some attempt is made to say something about labour and management relations and big business methods of operation but these points are treated lightly.

Mireille Darc makes a very charming and seductive call girl while Pierre Mondy gives full-blooded life to his role and the smaller parts — Michel Lonsdale as the head of the American company, Daniel Cecaldi as the P.R.O. and Francoise Prevost as Castel's wife — are well played. It is by no means an important film but it passes an hour or so pleasantly.

Who? (Chen, Tel Aviv). At the check post of the Berlin Wall a group of Americans await the arrival of Dr. Martino, a top American physicist who had been dreadfully injured in a car smash while attending a conference in East Germany. After months of intensive medical treatment he is being returned. It is a frightening figure that crosses the border, a sort of metal man. The face and skull form a metal oval, featureless except for an artificial mouth, ears and recesses through

which his own eyes gleam. The body and one arm appear to be made of metal too. But he can talk and move normally, and apparently his brain functions.

F.B.I. agent Rogers (Elliot Gould) is suspicious of the whole set-up, especially since Martino was working on a very secret project and insists that he be kept under strict surveillance until his identity is established beyond doubt.

Most of the film is taken up with interrogations of Martino himself and of the various people with whom he had contact. The F.B.I. enquiry is intercut with scenes from the sojourn in East Germany with Trevor Howard and a very English Russian colonel trying to exploit the possibilities of the situation. The result is that the film is far too talky for a would-be thriller and in general the pace is rather sluggish, while the ending, though unexpected, is anticlimactic.

Elliot Gould puts up a very poor performance, almost amateurish. The make-up man did a fine job and Joseph Bova in spite of all the armour is quite impressive as the unfortunate physicist. Jack Gold directed from a screenplay by John Gould based on a novel by Algis Budrys.



DRESSED in traditional Moroccan Jewish costumes, a group of ladies last week prepared and presented Moroccan Jewish delicacies as part of a series of folklore evenings conducted by ZOA House in Tel Aviv.

A most interesting programme

SOCCER PREVIEW
PAUL KOHN

TEL AVIV. — In the most interesting league soccer programme of the season, Jerusalem fans will be treated to the match of the day this Saturday between Jerusalem Hapoel and league leaders Beersheba Hapoel. At the same time in Tel Aviv the derby between Maccabi and Hapoel will be played at the Bloomfield stadium.

Netanya will have two needle matches, between Netanya Maccabi and Kfar Saba Hapoel and another Tel Aviv derby between Shimshon (they now play their home matches in Netanya) and Tel Aviv Betar.

For the past nine weeks no team has remained league leader for more than one week, though some have been at the top, dropped a few places and returned. Beersheba Hapoel is this week's on duty team in the top slot, but they too may have to bow out again after this week's games.

Jerusalem Hapoel came back to form with an away win over the usual Kfar Saba Hapoel team last Saturday, and moved into third spot. Their goal average is superior to that of the leaders, having conceded only 13 goals compared to Beersheba's 17 goals. Beersheba Hapoel too showed a welcome return to form in their 4:2 win over Shimshon, but home ground advantage may just tip the scale if Tzameret, Barzilai, Tashma and Buzaglo find their best form. A full house can be expected at the Katamon ground.

Another big crowd will turn out for the Tel Aviv derby. Tel Aviv Hapoel, which dropped at one stage to 12th

place in the league table, are now only three points behind Tel Aviv Maccabi in 5th spot. There is little in it in the defences of the two sides, but Maccabi's forwards have scored seven more goals than Hapoel. Maccabi have been erratic, some weeks playing like champions and at other times as last Saturday, when losing 0:2 in Petah Tikva, showing very mediocre form. There is not likely to be much in it after 90 minutes play though a narrow Maccabi win looks on the cards.

Netanya Maccabi were surprisingly beaten in Hadera last week, but their previous form at home was impressive, scoring 11 goals in three games. The result of their game against Kfar Saba depends on what form Spiegler, Machness, Lavie and co. produce. If they play as against Beersheba Hapoel whom they trounced 4:1, then they must be strong favourites to win again. An off-form display will enable Shum and Travess to get grip of the game for the visitors.

Second-placed Jerusalem Betar visit Hadera and will hope to fare better there than Netanya Maccabi did last week. Hadera Hapoel are not an easy side to beat on their home ground, but Jerusalem Betar have scored more goals than any side in the league (29) and appear to have the edge in attack. Hadera Hapoel have scored only 12 goals in 17 games.

Haifa Hapoel appear likely to

return to winning ways against Jaffa Maccabi. The Hattaites, who were top of the league only a couple of weeks ago, seem to have lost their goal-getting touch in their most recent games and will have to improve to remain championship contestants. Ramat Amidar Maccabi, struggling to get off the bottom rung, travel to Petah Tikva Maccabi. The Petah Tikva side, after a fine start to the season, have not played well in recent weeks, but still look strong enough to win this game at home, though Ramat Amidar have collected three points from their last two games.

No one managed to mark correctly all 13 games on last week's Sportoto football pool, bringing the minimum prize money after this Saturday's games to IL2.5m, including IL4.5m as first prize money. Some 60 people who got 12 results right will each win IL6,000, eleven results will collect IL457 and ten getting IL67. A total of IL4.5m. was invested in the pool last week, but this figure is likely to be well surpassed this week because of the bigger prize money possibilities.

Sportoto Guide:

Netanya Maccabi v Kfar Saba Hapoel 1
Haifa Hapoel v Jaffa Maccabi 1
Petah Tikva Mac. v Ramat Amidar Mac. 2
Hadera Hapoel v Jerusalem Betar 2
Tel Aviv Maccabi v Tel Aviv Hapoel 1
Shimshon v Tel Aviv Betar 1
Jerusalem Hapoel v Beersheba Hapoel 1
Hakoah v Petah Tikva Hapoel x
Be'er Yehuda v Haifa Maccabi x
Ashdod Hapoel v Yabud Hapoel 2
Ramat Betar v Shaarayim Maccabi x
Tiberias Hapoel v Netanya Betar 1
Nahariya Hapoel v Netanya Hapoel 1

The diet numbers game

FIGURE IT OUT / JUDIE ORON

months of all the foods we so crave. Furthermore, anyone who has accumulated excess weight has done so precisely because he or she has been unable to stop eating high-calorie foods. To expect that misguided person to do so, perhaps forever, is unrealistic in the extreme.

WHAT I AM suggesting is a new kind of "balanced" eating that begins with an awareness of the exact caloric content of each food, and results in a sensible compromise between foods consumed for gratification, and those necessary to our bodies. This involves work — learning the calorie tables by heart, writing things down, and weighing the ingredients of the dishes we

prepare. The rewards — not only will you be losing weight, but you will also be "allowed" many foods which you thought were forbidden.

What's the most fattening thing you can think of? — a piece of cheesecake? Three hundred calories. Even if you have occasionally broken your diet, simply incorporate the forbidden food into your daily total and eat low calorie foods for the rest of the day.

How can you assess the number of calories you may consume daily in order to reduce at a reasonable pace? Conservatives estimate the amount at 33 calories daily for every kilo of your desired weight. (Be reasonable about your desired weight). Thus, a woman 5'2" tall,

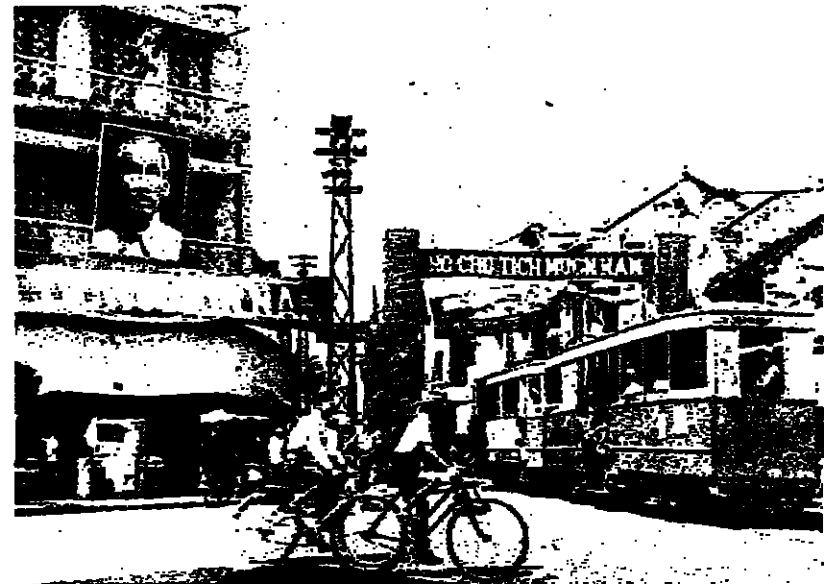
between the ages 18-35 who wants to weigh 50 kilo (110 lbs.), should consume 1650 (50 kilo x 33 calories) calories per day to eventually reach her ideal weight. In my own experience, this figure is too high. If you find, however, that you are not losing steadily after two weeks, reduce your daily intake by 100-200 calories. On no account should you reduce your intake drastically without consulting your doctor.

YOU MAY APPORTION your calorie allowance differently every day, to allow for variations in schedule and in hunger patterns. Some basic rules, however, must be adhered to. Eat a large portion of fresh vegetables daily; at least one citrus fruit or tomato daily; a generous portion of meat, fish, eggs and/or cheese must be an important part of your diet every day.

In the next diet column, we will tackle the problem of cooking a main meal which is inexpensive, tasty, and low in calories.

Tourists are beginning to trickle into war-ravaged North Vietnam. Some go as ideological sympathizers, others as sightseers, like Swedish student Gote Fox, who writes here of his impressions.

A tourist in Hanoi



HANOI: Bicycles, ancient tram cars and posters of Ho Chi Minh.

next few months. Large maps show an undivided Vietnam with no borders or distinction of any sort between North and South.

The years of American bombing have left many scars, marks on buildings, craters, twisted steel on bridges and railways. Not one large factory that we saw has escaped damage and not all are being repaired. Haiphong and the coal-mining town of Hon Gay are still suffering from the effects of the war; in

Haiphong damage to the port makes unloading very slow.

Technical backwardness also slows the operation of the port. The trains are steam-powered and slow, coastal traffic goes in sailing ships, the roads are bad and there is a shortage of machinery.

A Swedish builder praised the hard work of the people but said conflicts between the Asian and European way of working, plus technical problems with things such as

transport, had caused some irritation at his construction site for a paper factory.

Despite massive aid from abroad, mainly from the Communist countries (according to our guide this is the only way for a developing country to build socialism without passing through a 150-year capitalist phase), industrial progress is slow. The country must devote energy to growing "unnecessary" products, such as peanuts, for export to earn foreign exchange to buy machinery.

Agriculture is the base of the economy. Some 95 per cent of peasants work in cooperatives, which are trying to introduce cottage industry to become more self-sufficient. Lacking machines and chemical fertilizer, the farmers must make the most of what is available to increase agricultural production. One way is crop rotation, for example to alternate two crops of rice and one of potatoes, the potatoes going to feed pigs whose manure provides natural fertilizer for the rice.

Political education is considered particularly important in the countryside since peasants tend to be conservative. The cooperatives aim to make the peasants "proletarian" and to lessen the differences between factory workers in the towns and people in the country.

Despite the heavy Russian influence, the Vietnamese want to stay neutral in the ideological conflict between Russia and China. They say it damages world socialism and plays into imperialist hands. Western claims that Hanoi takes the Soviet side are denied. If they are true it is because the Vietnamese need the Soviet Union as a counterweight to their giant neighbour and because Vietnam leans on Russia's heavier industrial capacity for its reconstruction after 30 years of war. (OFNS)

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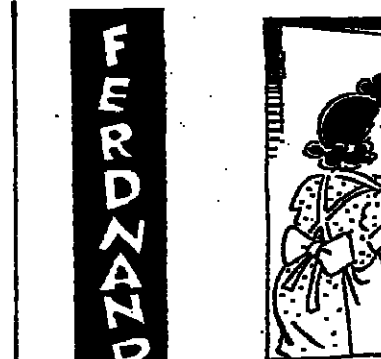
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B-G Airport Flights

Please call Ben-Gurion Airport Flight Information, 03-971461/2/3, (or 03-971533 for EI Al flights only) for changes in times of Arrivals and Departures.

THURSDAY
ARRIVALS: EI Al 536 from Nakhro, 0225; Alitalia 738 from Rome, 1335; EI Al 584 from Tehran, 1345; Austrian 711 from Vienna, 1350; Lufthansa 634 from Frankfurt 1430; EI Al 585 from Montreal, 1440; TWA 350 from N.Y. and Paris 1505; THY 524 from Istanbul, 1545; EI Al 516 from N.Y. and London, 1550; Air France 154 from Paris and Lyon 1700; Cyprusair 302 from Larnaca, 1705; Sabena 202 from Zurich, 1805; TWA 316 from San Francisco, Boston, Paris, Rome and Athens, 1845; E.A. 444 from London, 1855; EI Al 536 from Paris, 1925; Air France 136 from Paris, 2015; EI Al 542 from Athens, 2035; EI Al 538 from Paris and Rome, 2050; EI Al 515 from Johannesburg and Nairobi, 2130; EI Al 578 from Copenhagen and Zurich, 2135.

DEPARTURES: EI Al 537 to Amsterdam, Paris and N.Y.; EI Al 538 to Amsterdam, Paris and N.Y.; EI Al 539 to N.Y.; 0800; KLM 336 to Amsterdam, 0810; EI Al 540 from Rome, Paris, 0820; Air France 131 to Nice and Paris, 0940; TWA 351 to Athens and London, 0950; EI Al 577 to Copenhagen, 0915; E.A. 435 to London, 0940; EI Al 587 to Frankfurt, 1000; Sabena 202 to Brussels, 1010; Alitalia 730 to Rome, 1050; Austrian 712 to Vienna, 1440; Lufthansa 633 to Munich and Frankfurt, 1630; EI Al 541 to Athens, 1615; THY 525 to Istanbul, 1630; Cyprusair 303 to Larnaca, 1700; Air France 154 to Tehran, Delhi, and Bangkok, 1610.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
JERUSALEM: Maalot Dahan, 129 Maalot Dahan, 511804; Beit Hanneh, Beit Hanneh Rd. 545489.

TEL AVIV: Kikar Hamedina, 45 Heh Beiyar, 238046. HOLON: Brit, 45 Kranev, 241511.

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ON THE AIR

HEBREW NEWS AND NEWSREELS
1st Programme: News: 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00 and midnight.
Newsreels: 7.00 p.m.
2nd Programme: 6.45 a.m., 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, midnight and 1.00 a.m.
Newsreels: 7.05 a.m., 1.05 p.m.
3rd Programme: 5.00 a.m., 5.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, 12.00, 1.00 p.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.00, 8.00, 9.00, 10.00, 11.00, midnight and 1.00 a.m., 2.00, 3.00, 4.00.
Newsreels: 5.05 a.m., 5.05 and 11.45 p.m.

FIRST PROGRAMME
285, 325 and 321 M.
7.58 a.m. Opening: 8.10 "Morning Concert" — Weber: Bassoon Concerto; Mendelssohn: Symphony No. 4, 9.05 Grieg: Quartet in G minor (Quartet); J. S. Bach: Fantasia, Impromptu for Saxophone; Bartok: Contrasts.
10.05 Book Review. 10.15 Programmes for Elementary Schools. 10.35 "Radiodrama." 11.00 News in easy Hebrew. 11.45 Yrit La'am. 11.55 Programmes for Elementary Schools. 12.05 Bernstein: Dances from "West Side Story." 12.05 Hindemith: Haydn (Austrian Quartet). 1.05 Midday Concert — Raff: Piano Concerto; Homage: Symphony No. 1. 1.15 Programme Trailer. 2.10 Mother and Child. 3.05 "Who is the Man?" — Quiz. 4.05 (Stereo) — Jer. Symph. Orch. — Inquiereo — Gluck: "Iphigene on Tauride"; Schubert: "Tragic Symphony"; Avni: "Meditations on a Drama." 4.30 "People and Figures." 4.35 "This Week's Review of Jewish Affairs." 5.55 For the Farmer. 7.05 "Today." 7.50 Bible Reading: Yirmiyahu, chapter 47 and 48. 8.00 "Public Opinion." 8.15 "Five to Nine." 9.05 "A Moment of Hebrew." 9.05 (Stereo). "New Horizons." 9.15 "People and Figures." 9.20 "This Week's Review of Jewish Affairs." 9.25 (Stereo) Mahler's Sixth Symphony (Ada Brodsky). 12.10 A Moment of Poetry. 12.15 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME
457, 523, 549, 583 and 585 M.
5.55 a.m. Opening. 6.00 Religious Service. 6.10 Gymnastics. 6.30 Musical Clock. 6.50 Programme Announcements. 6.50 A Moment of Hebrew. 7.05 "This Morning." 7.15 Hebrew Songs. 7.35 Green Light. 8.10 "Good Morning." 8.35 Announcements. 9.00 "Good Morning." (cont.) 10.05 "Here at Home." 11.45 A Few Moments with... 12.05 "Programme for the Employer." 12.10 Hebrew Songs. 12.45 "Who, Where When?" 1.05 p.m. "At Midday." 2.10 Requests. 3.05 "This is Elad." 3.15 Names and Events in the Jewish Sector. 4.10 "This is Elad." 4.15 "Once There Were..." — Songs of the past. 4.45 Today's Sport. 6.55 Announcements. 9.05 A Moment of Hebrew. 9.05 Selected songs from the Elad Parade. 10.05 "On Things Above and Things Beyond." 11.05 "Between Ourselves." 1.15 Close Down.

FIFTH PROGRAMME
445 M.
5.55 a.m. Opening. 7.00 News. 7.02 "Who is afraid of advanced pop?" 8.00 News. 8.05 "Who is afraid of advanced pop?" (cont.) 8.15 Close Down.

DEMOCRATIC HOUR
457, 523, 549, 583 and 585 M.
7.00 p.m. News in easy Hebrew. Yrit La'am. 7.15 Georgian. 7.30 Yiddish. 8.00 Ladino. 8.15 Mografi. 8.30 Romanian. 8.45 Russian. 9.00 Close Down.

ENGLISH NEWS AND PROGRAMMES
7.00 a.m. (4th programme and short waves); 8.00-9.00 p.m. (4th programme and short waves); 9.00 p.m. (4th programme); 8.00-8.15 p.m. (4th programme); 10.00-10.25 p.m. (short waves).

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M.M. MAYER
Joint General Manager

THE PLO'S PATRON

FOR SHEER CYNICISM, Abdul-Halim Khaddam's avowal of a Syrian "hands off" policy towards Lebanon could not be bettered.

According to the Syrian Foreign Minister, his government is entirely free of any responsibility for the Palestine Liberation Army troops now patrolling most of Lebanon on behalf of the PLO. The PLA forces are, of course, known to be Syrian equipped, based and commanded. They are known to have crossed into Lebanon in broad daylight on express orders from Damascus. And they are known to be staying there now at Syria's insistence. Yet the Syrian minister would have the world believe that these activities, which had helped establish what Lebanese presidential aspirant Raymond Eddé calls a Syrian "mandate" over his country, were not the work of Syria at all.

Nevertheless, there may be a small kernel of truth in Mr. Khaddam's protestation of innocence, to the extent that there is a measure of distrust between Damascus and the PLO. Syria is certainly eager to use the PLO in all its forms, both regular and irregular, for its own ends. The PLO has a place, along with Jordan and Lebanon, in the design for a Greater Syria, which would serve as a counterpoise to the power of Egypt. The sense of solitude bred in Damascus by Egypt's interim agreement with Israel last September has only sharpened Syrian determination to expand its alliance system, and to include the PLO in it.

But Syria is not especially eager to be used by the PLO for its own partisan ends. Even now, when cooperation is in bloom — it was Syria, after all, which obtained a hearing for the PLO before the Security Council — a very tight rein is being kept on all PLO groups inside Syria, and across the border in Lebanon, lest they begin to run wild. Surely it is no accident that the long-mooted unified Syrian-PLO command still has not come into being, although a complementary Syrian-Jordanian command is already in operation.

Apparently, while PLO chief Yasser Arafat is working hard for Hafez Assad in the streets of Beirut, his heart still belongs to Anwar Sadat — or rather to Egypt. The PLO's relentless verbal assault on the interim agreement has caused a rupture with Egypt, but not a complete break. As some PLO leaders told Sadat — according to his testimony — although they are geographically tied to Syria, politically they owe allegiance to Egypt.

Sadat for his part has taken pains to cultivate the PLO's support despite the acerbity. His differences with Assad, he has been trying to explain, are over tactics, not strategy. On the Palestinian issue, too, he favours the Kissinger step-by-step approach which, with U.S. help, will slowly, but surely, bring the PLO to its cherished goal. Storming the way to U.S. recognition via the Security Council — if that was the purpose — was inadvisable because, as he has now revealed in the interview to "Al Hawadeth," Sadat had already received "more than a pledge" of such eventual recognition.

The existence of an American undertaking to this effect need not be doubted merely on the ground that Israel was not privy to it. Just as we may have overestimated Syria's commitment to the PLO, so we may have underestimated Egypt's continuing commitment — and Egypt's ability to induce the U.S. to underwrite it. The lesson for Israel, though, is not that the interim agreement was a mistake. It is rather that, if the establishment of a PLO state is to be prevented, another way must be found to solve the Palestinian problem.

King Hussein's decision, yesterday, to resurrect his pre-Rabat parliament, which had an equal representation of East and West Bankers, points to such a way, which Prime Minister Rabin in his own fashion has already indicated he was willing to explore. There are dangers in such exploration, but there are even greater dangers in a refusal to embark upon it.

ISRAEL PRESS

'Some substance to Sadat's claim'

MA'ARIV (Independent) pounces on the Egyptian President's statement, to the effect that the U.S. Secretary of State had promised him U.S. recognition of the PLO. The paper comments that such a secret commitment, if there is in fact one, constitutes a grave breach of faith vis-à-vis Israel — while if no such commitment exists, President Sadat's claim presents an Egyptian attempt to disrupt Israel-U.S. relations. In either case, the paper contends, an unequivocal American clarification is called for, "even if this is liable to harm the newly established amicable relations between Washington and Cairo." Remarking that the U.S. Secretary of State had undoubtedly given President Sadat certain promises — "that was how he secured his trust and friendship" — and wondering whether these also included a commitment that the U.S. would recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinians, the paper concludes: "Only Kissinger himself can provide an authoritative answer, and he is duty-bound to do so — for the sake of veracity, trust and the good relations between Israel and the U.S."

YEDIOT AHAONOT (Independent) summed up its attitude to believe President Sadat's assertion, and sees Israel as always having to defray the cost of the Kissinger policy. HA'ARETZ (Independent) agrees it is "unlikely that President Sadat would have publicly referred to a specific U.S. undertaking if this were liable to get him involved in a denial from Washington." It is therefore likely, the paper believes, that such an undertaking was actually given, though probably with certain modifications. Referring to U.S. moves at the United Nations, the paper points out that, while the veto was undoubtedly a gain for Israel, it was preceded by the Security Council's unanimous invitation to the PLO to participate in its debate, i.e., with U.S. approval as well. "While the U.S. is not prepared to accept the PLO of the Rabat conference formula, it would be prepared to do so if it recognized Israel. Israel will have to face this trend in U.S. policy."

DAVAR (Histadrut), commenting on the resignation of the U.S. Ambassador to the U.N., says "Israel sincerely regrets Daniel Moynihan's resignation. There have been few U.S. diplomats who, in presenting the policies and interests of their country, have so forcefully presented the Israeli position. However, it would be an oversimplification to maintain that he resigned as a result of his pro-Israel stand at the United Nations, as this was only a part (though a highly dramatic one) of his stand as Washington's diplomatic representative. Even before his appointment, he consistently advocated the U.S. taking a bold stand against the Third World anti-U.S. states whose voting power at the U.N. does not reflect their real strength. Moynihan had good reason to believe that, when the President appointed him, he was backing him in this attitude."

Referring to criticism of Moynihan from State Department circles, the paper doubts whether he was forced to resign, believing it more likely that he hopes to pursue a political career.



AS A MEMBER of a fact finding delegation from the House Appropriations Foreign Operations Subcommittee, I had the opportunity to visit Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Portugal. The subcommittee decides on the military and economic requests of these countries and we wanted to talk directly with their officials.

One matter I was concerned about was the treatment given to Jews of Syria and therefore I requested that the U.S. Ambassador to Syria arrange for a visit to the Syrian Jewish Community in Damascus.

The visit started at 5 a.m. when the streets of Damascus are dark and deserted. I was accompanied by my friend and colleague Congressman Joe Early of Massachusetts, who had volunteered to join me. We were to be accompanied by a representative of the Syrian Foreign Ministry and a driver.

Although I was sure there was no danger, one's irrational fears can reign at that hour, particularly when alone in an unfamiliar country, unfriendly at least to Jews.

The Foreign Ministry car arrived, and we took off into a confusing maze of alleys in the Old City, site of the Jewish quarter. The maze seemed too much for our guide, too, who finally announced: "We are lost. We don't know where the synagogue is." Just at that point we entered an alley too narrow for the car. There was no alternative but to get out and walk.

The four of us, Joe, the two Syrians and myself, set out and shortly thereafter it became clear we were lost; the two Syrians did not know the location of any synagogues. Suddenly in an open square, we saw a man in his fifties wearing a yarmulke, and we ran up to him. We explained to the frightened man who we were and what we were seeking. He then led us to a small synagogue where 12 men and adolescents were praying.

They were startled to see us. I asked the Foreign Ministry representative to tell them Joe and I were American Congressmen. I, a Jew, there to pray, he, a Roman Catholic and a friend. There was no special response except to hand me a prayer book. I pointed to a talith — a prayer shawl, and they brought one to me.

Shortly thereafter, I was startled by a voice next to me asking, in English, "What do you think?" I hesitated to answer, for I had decided not to ask the synagogue's worshippers any questions because

This report of a recent visit to Syria was written by a Jewish member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Edward Koch of New York. The photographs of Damascus Jews were taken in the early 'seventies.

A meeting with the Jews of Damascus

of the presence of the Syrians who had come with me and the possibility that anyone I talked with might later be subject to interrogation and possible punishment. Finally I said, "Is it all right to talk?" He said it was. Then something made me ask, "are you Jewish?" He responded, "No, I am your driver and I am a refugee from Jerusalem." Since 1967, many Palestinians have settled in the Jewish quarter of Damascus. Because of the darkness, I had not seen the man's face; he was wearing a yarmulke. I did not pursue the conversation.

The services ended, and our Syrian guide said that this was a family synagogue and that he could now take us to a larger, public one. We were led there by one of the adolescents who had worshipped with us, a 14-year-old boy. When we arrived, there was only one person inside, and he told us

that services would not begin for another 20 minutes. Just then, in walked three grim-faced men in their thirties fingering prayer beads. I could feel their hostility and knew immediately they were not Jewish. Joe and I looked at each other, thinking, "Now what?" The three Syrian Arabs spoke to our guide, who in turn said, "they want to know why you are here." I asked who they were and was told that they were Palestinian refugees who lived in the quarter. I said, "Tell them we are two American Congressmen, and we are here to see what we can see."

cluded three Palestinians. Their presence was rather heavy and intimidating but there was not much I could do about them.

Upon leaving the second synagogue I was struck by the urge to make a statement of principle. Our newly acquired escorts, the three Arabs who seemed to want to intimidate us. As we crossed the threshold, I saw the men in the doorway. I went up to it and kissed it, not with my hand but with my lips — something I had never done before in my life.

When we reached the third synagogue, the service was already under way with about 35 congregants. At its conclusion, I gathered about Joe and me and explained through the interpreter who we were. It was clear to them that we were not Jewish. I wanted to talk. But we were all inhibited, only by my Syrian guide, but the three Palestinians. So the discussion was limited to such questions, as whether a cure for cancer had been found in the United States. While we talked, some members of the congregation were kneeling, and they asked us to share with them. It was the most delicious tea I have ever tasted, aromatic, garnished with almonds, coconut, with almonds floating on top. Yet as I think back, I probably not so much the flavor of the tea that made it so marvelous. It was the moment. We could feel a bond with these people, feel the warmth. They knew now that we were people outside Syria worried about them. They were not so gotten.

SELLING DETENTE

WASHINGTON INSIGHT / Joseph Kraft

Public opinion, after a crazy, mixed-up period, seems now to have come warily down in favour of seeking accords with Moscow. But Dr. Kissinger is vulnerable, and he could blow even the critical issue of a new arms agreement if he continues to demand support for all his actions, including the mess in Angola.

In the last years of Vietnam, the normally anti-Communist right was mesmerized by President Nixon into believing the U.S. could get out of Vietnam with honour by means of a deal with Moscow. Thus from 1972 through 1974 the right wing tended to hold its fire on detente.

Insofar as there was any protest, it came from Jews angry about Soviet bars to emigration and about Russian support for the Arabs against Israel. Additionally, there were some consumers fearful of the impact of wheat sales to Russia.

American conservatives, in these conditions, find themselves freed to revert to virulent anti-Communism. Not surprisingly, they are going after Dr. Kissinger and his policies toward Russia. Thus, Ronald Reagan on the campaign trail is constantly charging that under Kissinger's policy detente has become a "one-way street."

Liberal opinion has shifted in the other direction. Experience with Jewish emigration, with soaring defence budgets, not to mention the revelations about the intelligence community and the fiddling in Angola, all argue the case for negotiation over confrontation. Still there is a huge majority (89-14 per cent) in favour of a further arms control, or Salt, agreement with the Soviets.

Henry Jackson of Washington, has recently been modifying his opposition. He has backed away from support for the B-1 bomber, the Air Force's latest project for making the Soviets behave under threat of force. He has been very circumspect in criticizing the arms control agreement negotiated by Dr. Kissinger in Moscow last month.

THE UPSHOT is a growth in wariness about the long-term deals with Russia. According to Mr. Harris, the margin of those favouring long-term agreements with the Soviet Union is now only 44-39 per cent. Still there is a huge majority (89-14 per cent) in favour of a further arms control, or Salt, agreement with the Soviets.

behind him. Detente is good for the nation, and if nominated President Ford will surely want to be another arms control agreement part of his list of achievements.

But Dr. Kissinger has seen near the free hand he used to be. A significant part of the Republican party now actively opposes him. He has enemies in the national security community. His latest arms control deal — because it applies limits to the Soviet Backfire bomb and puts unverifiable limits on missiles — is highly vulnerable to nagging by hawks who do not mind overlooking the fact that Backfire was not designed as an intercontinental bomber or that the Americans build cruise missiles the Russians will certainly follow suit.

So Dr. Kissinger makes a grave mistake if he continues to stick finger in the eyes of leading Democrats on the issue of the intelligence community in Angola. He may satisfy his own vain belief that he is immune from mistakes, but he will jeopardize the majority for a really important business of moving toward another strategic agreement.

READERS' LETTERS

PRAYING TOGETHER FOR PEACE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — The explosive situation in the Middle East, especially as reflected in the tragic events in Lebanon, has brought Jews, Christians and Moslems, all children of Abraham, into a state of confrontation and conflict with each other. Deeply concerned by the seriousness of recent events in the area, as well as in Angola, Ireland and elsewhere, we, Jews, Christians and Moslems living in Jerusalem joined together on Mount Zion on Friday, January 30, in common prayer for peace. Although we may differ among ourselves with regard to desirable solutions of the various conflicts, we are all united in our yearning for peace. Therefore, we call to all who have any power and influence — both political and religious — to inter-

tervene on behalf of the cause of reconciliation and mutual acceptance.

We call upon all Jews, Christians and Moslems in Jerusalem and environs to gather in their synagogues, churches and mosques in common prayer for peace in the Middle East and the world over. We suggest Friday, February 13, as the designated day when we shall express to God our common concern. We invite Jews, Christians and Moslems everywhere to unite with us in prayer on this day. (For further information, telephone Jerusalem 223841, or 237250.)

BROTHER BRUNO HUSSAR
RABBI HILLAL
RABBI A.C. ZAOU
(On behalf of the participants)
Jerusalem, January 30.

SUBSTITUTE FOR OIL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — Dr. Zakir-Am, in his observations on the energy challenge (January 19), dismisses the oil problem as inherently political and states that those who hope for a solution through technological developments are bound to be disappointed.

Allow me to remind him that, during World War I, the British were in deep trouble owing to a serious shortage of acetone, essential for the manufacture of explosives. Mr. Churchill called in Dr. Weizmann

and asked him to try to find a substitute. Dr. Weizmann had for some years been doing research in fermentation processes and succeeded in discovering a suitable synthetic solvent.

Would it not be more helpful if Dr. Zakir-Am would induce Israeli research chemists to follow Dr. Weizmann's example? Who knows — they may, if encouraged, discover a substitute for oil.

DAVID FREEMAN
Haifa, January 19.

GERMAN COURTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — How absurd can we get? Jewish judges in the Jewish State decide to send two Jewish children back to Germany because a German court of law decided so. One should remember that a German court of law put Mrs. Beate Klarsfeld in jail, thus giving a pat on the back to Kurt

CHEAP RIDES

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post Sir — You have printed letter after letter from your readers — all against Egged, and even your own writers have not written one word in its defence. Surely, there must be something to be said in Egged's favour.

Now, Sir, let's be fair. I am able to buy a ticket for 20 rides for IL5.10. At the present rate of exchange, that equals about 6 cents a ride, and at the real dollar value of the Israeli Lira, around 4½ cents. How can a bus company operate with fares as low as these? In the U.S., fares are now between 35 and 50 cents and the price of gasoline for the American company is much lower than the price Egged has to pay.

LOU WEINTRAUB
Haifa, January 31.

NEWSWEEK

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